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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 897  
By Chumney

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Nellie Culbreath Wood Stroupe of Covington for her outstanding accomplishments as an equestrian.

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the members of this legislative body should honor those exemplary individuals who through their abiding commitment to excellence, are credits to this state; and

WHEREAS, Nellie Culbreath Wood Stroupe is one such remarkable individual who is most assuredly deserving of special recognition; and

WHEREAS, born in Tabernacle, Tennessee on October 6, 1912 to Gertrude and Eddie Culbreath, Nellie Stroupe has been riding and showing Tennessee Walking Horses for eighty years; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Covington High School, Nellie won her first riding contest in 1926 by capturing the blue ribbon at the Tipton County Fair, although she had no formal training or prior show experience; and

WHEREAS, in 1938, Nellie won a Silver Loving Cup for the Best Lady Rider in Tipton County, given by the Cartwrights of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Nellie has competed in numerous competitions and has owned the exceptional horses named King's Honey Bee and her beloved Shadow's Baby Doll; and

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WHEREAS, in 1976, Nellie Culbreath Stroupe and Baby Doll inspired patriotism in the hearts of many when they led the giant extravaganza Bicentennial Freedom Train Parade down Front Street in Memphis, led the group carrying the Bicentennial scrolls from Germantown City Hall to the Wagon Train at the Penal Farm, participated in the Bicentennial Children's Parade and the Collierville Bicentennial Parade; together, they have proudly presented the Stars and Stripes for many years; and

WHEREAS, she has led numerous civic groups with the flag, and is well-known for her expert teamwork of house and rider in posting the colors over the course of twenty-six years for parades and many horse shows in Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee, including the Germantown Charity Horse Show, The Cotton Classic, The Mid-South Walking Horse Association, and even a U.T. Martin football game; and

WHEREAS, Nellie has been featured in *The Voice of the Tennessee Walking Horse*, *The Walking Horse Report*, *The Co-op for Farmers Monthly*, *The Mid-South Horse Review* and *The Covington Leader* and various other newspapers; and

WHEREAS, she also has been recognized across the state for researching and patterning a quilt featuring actual likenesses of the first 39 World Champion Walking Horses that have performed in the National Celebration in Shelbyville since 1939; her quilt has been displayed at locations throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, she is also known as an avid collector of dolls, which are kept in a walnut folding bed which belonged to her grandmother, Anna Rosabelle Roby, toys, family scrapbooks, beaded shawls and lace caps, and a large print family Bible given to her great-grandmother, Eliza Pergin Baird Older, on her wedding day in 1828; and

WHEREAS, Nellie Stroupe rode with her husband, Tom Stroupe, now deceased, in parades, saddle clubs, horse shows and rodeos, and won awards, including the overall trophy for matched couples from the West Tennessee Saddle Club Association, and she also fondly remembers her departed sister, Helen Hamer, and brother, Floyd Culbreath; and

WHEREAS, her countless accomplishments aside, Nellie Culbreath Wood Stroupe is most appreciative of the love and companionship she shares with her three children, named James E. "Jimmy" Wood, Bill Wood, and Rosemary MacGregor, and with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, women of her stature do not often walk among us, and it is entirely fitting that we pause in our deliberations to specially honor this outstanding lady; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and recognize Nellie Culbreath Wood Stroupe of Covington for her outstanding accomplishments as an equestrian.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.